

Emperor to make peace with the Turks, but not unless he abandoned the territories he had conquered and the Christian peoples he had freed from the Turkish yoke. Nor could he honourably make peace without his allies.

England and Holland continually tried to mediate and bring about a peace, while France as incessantly sought to frustrate the efforts of the English and Dutch ambassadors.

It was not till Prince Eugene had inflicted another crushing defeat on the Turks at Zenta, in 1697, that they were willing to listen to the advice of the mediators and recognise the necessity of yielding. By the peace of Carlowitz in 1699 the Turks gave up Hungary and Transylvania to Austria, ceded the Peloponnesus and half Dalmatia to Venice, and restored to Poland all she had lost in 1676. The advance of Turkey was permanently checked, and it cannot be doubted that this was as necessary to Europe as it was to check the aggressions of Louis XIV.

Here again it is not a question of errors of fact which can be set right in a footnote; by emphasising certain facts and omitting others, Macaulay produces a false impression which it would take pages of explanation to remove. Look into his accounts of the attitude of the northern powers during the struggle and of the part which Savoy played in it; both are equally unsatisfactory. In short the view of our continental relations presented is so far

from being
* generally correct * that it requires rewriting
rather than
revision.

This defect is not due to the insufficiency of
the materials
then available to historians, though that
accounts for some
of the mistakes. Macaulay did not make the
best use of the
authorities which were accessible. He did not
put himself
back into the seventeenth century, and
endeavour to under-
stand the position and the interests of the
various states